

PATENT

Atty. Docket No. YOR920030406US1 (8728-649)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Robert J. Allen et al.

SERIAL NO.: Not Yet Assigned

FILED: Concurrently Herewith

DATED: December 10, 2003

FOR: A FRAMEWORK FOR HIERARCHICAL VLSI DESIGN

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT


Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.10

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on this date December 10, 2003 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mail Label Number EV413369444US addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Nathaniel T. Wallace

The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

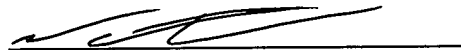
The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

- ☒ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed concurrently with the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) attached herewith
- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application.
- ☐ To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.
- ☐ Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e):
I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this statement.
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(ii).
 - ☐ Enclosed by check is the petition fee of \$130.00. 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1))
- ☐ Please charge the \$130.00 petition fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0510/IBM (Yorktown Heights).

- ☐ Enclosed by check is the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).
- ☐ Please charge the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to a Credit Card. Form PTO-2038 is enclosed.
- ☒ Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or §1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 50-0510/IBM (Yorktown Heights). Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding and/or a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(i) are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time and/or enter this Information Disclosure Statement as required and charge Deposit Account No. 50-0510/IBM (Yorktown Heights) therefor. TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED.

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Nathaniel T. Wallace
Reg. No. 48,909
Attorney for Applicant(s)

F. CHAU & ASSOCIATES, LLP
1900 Hempstead Turnpike
Suite 501
East Meadow, New York 11554
(516) 357-0091
(516) 357-0092 (FAX)

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| Form PTO-1449 | | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | | ATTY. DOCKET NO. YOR920030406US1 (8728-649) | | SERIAL NO. Not Yet Assigned | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | | APPLICANT Robert J. Allen et al. | | | |
| | | | | FILING DATE Concurrently Herewith | | GROUP ART UNIT | |
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| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|---------|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
| | | 6,473,881 | 10/2002 | Lehner et al. | 716 | 2 | 10/31/2000 |
| | | 6,275,974 | 08/2001 | Bartels et al. | 716 | 13 | 1/28/1999 |
| | | 6,263,480 | 07/2001 | Bartels et al. | 716 | 13 | 1/28/1999 |
| | | 5,481,473 | 01/1996 | Kim et al. | 716 | 5 | 2/19/1993 |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------|------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
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| OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | |
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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

(Form PTO-1449 [6-4])